

INTIMATIONS

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of the

ALLISON PIANO

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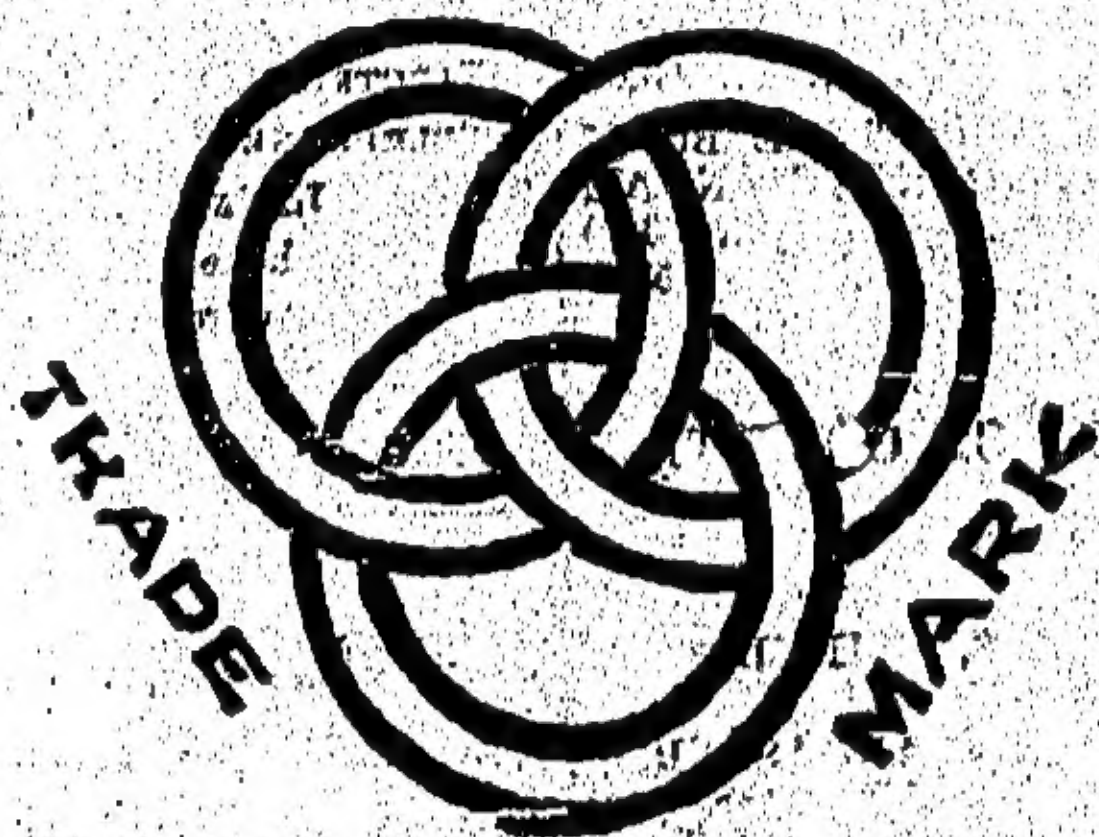
INSPECTION INVITED.

S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.,

SOLE AGENTS.

[26-4]

BALLANTINE'S BEER AND STOUT



Warranted to PURITY, QUALITY AND FLAVOUR

WITH "THREE RINGS"

DONNELLY & WHYTE,

SOLE AGENTS.

TEL. 633.

95

FOR RACE WEEK

SPECIAL
DISPLAY
OF NEW GOODS

AT

MACKINTOSH'S

— THE —
DEPENDABLE
MEN'S STORE.

MACKINTOSH Men's Wear DES VŒUX RD.,
& Co., Ltd., Specialists, No. 16.

[103]

A HUMIDOR FREE.

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY TO INTRODUCE

"AMULET"

SMOKING MIXTURE.

To a wider circle of smokers, we have decided to offer 8 ozs. of this splendid Tobacco packed in a highly serviceable Glass Humidor for \$2.60, which is the price of 8 ozs. of this Tobacco alone.

As the number of these Humidors is limited you should
SECURE ONE AT ONCE.
It will keep your Tobacco fresh during the damp weather.

Obtainable from:

Messrs HONGKONG COAL STORE.
" A. S. WATSON & Co.
" LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
" KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
" GREEK-EGYPTIAN COAL STORE.
" ANGLO-EGYPTIAN COAL STORE,
" SINGAPORE & Co.

MANUFACTURED BY—

WESTMINSTER TOBACCO
CO., LTD.,
LONDON.

BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO A RECORD YEAR'S PROFITS.

The fourteenth annual general meeting of British-American Tobacco Company (Limited) was held at the office of the company, Westminster House, 7, Millbank, S.W., under the presidency of Mr. Joseph Hood (one of the deputy chairmen), on January 11th.

In reviewing the accounts, the Chairman pointed out that, taking the assets as a whole, they had increased by £1,578,317 to the large total of £17,571,782. The profit and loss account, subject to excess profits duty, was £2,092,328, as against £1,017,230, or an increase of £1,075,098. The profit for the year was £2,735,361, as against £1,850,059 for the previous year. This was the largest profit earned since the incorporation of the company. It showed an increase of £883,302, after providing for a considerably larger amount for income-tax than in 1915.

The Company had already paid four interim dividends, amounting in all to 25 per cent. upon the Ordinary shares, absorbing £1,563,580, and the Directors recommended the payment of a final dividend in cash (free of British income-tax) of 5 per cent. on the 31st inst., amounting to £2,170,166, leaving, with the balance of £1,148,166 brought forward, a year-end available balance of £1,760,332.

The Board also recommended that out of the Company's large holding of Ordinary shares of the Imperial Tobacco Company of Canada (Limited), a bonus distribution should be made of one Ordinary share of £5 in respect of every four Ordinary shares of this company. They are quite able to do this, as those shares only stood in their books at the nominal value of less than 6d. per share, and the total amount they would have had to write off the investment in associated companies, as the result of the distribution of the £1,563,580 Canadian shares, would have been only £287,055.

But since the issue of the report and balance-sheet the directors had had certain difficulties brought to their attention, and had taken the advice of counsel thereon, and they considered it would be undesirable to distribute this bonus without at least the existing facilities of association. It would accordingly be necessary to submit the matter to further meetings of the company. It was hoped that the delay thus entailed would merely postpone the transfer of the shares for a few weeks.

THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

The Chairman proceeded: "We have lost from our head office, our foreign offices, and from our English factories, over 2,300 men who have joined the Colours. I should like to express our appreciation of the splendid way the women whom we have trained in the offices and factories have risen to the occasion and done excellent work. (Hear, hear.) Again the difficulties in obtaining supplies, not only of leaf tobacco, but of packing materials, because of the demands of Government Departments. As you know, we are so far as this country is concerned, purely an export manufacturing company, and I regret that I said last year that it must naturally be the policy of any Government to encourage any business which brings money into the country and does something to redress the balance of excess of imports over exports. In saying that I would like to say that we have received every courtesy in the course of our representations to Government Departments, bearing always in mind the paramount interests of the country in carrying on the war."

Our two last annual meetings I have specifically referred to the payments we have been making to the company's officials and employees in this country who have joined the colours of certain allowances to supplement their Army or Navy pay and allowances. These payments two years ago cost us about £200 per week, but in consequence of the large increase in the number of men serving that expenditure has considerably increased. This money, we feel sure, you will agree is well spent. (Hear, hear.) It not only recognises in a tangible form our appreciation of their services to their country, but it materially assists their families and dependents, and maintains an esprit de corps which is extremely helpful.

We have unfortunately had to mourn the deaths of 111 of our officials, and employees who joined the colours. We are proud that amongst those who have died, and those who are still living, eight have had the Military Cross conferred upon them, seven the Military Medal, five the Distinguished Conduct Medal, three the Croix de Guerre, one the Serbian gold medal, and, in addition, three have been mentioned in despatches. (Cheers.) To those of our employees at home on salary or wages, whose incomes do not exceed £400 a year, we have made war emergency allowances as some compensation for the extra cost of living. In addition, we have for some years past in fact paid to the men, given annually in March to our factory employees in England, who have been continuously with us for the year, a bonus based upon a percentage of their wages for the past financial year of the company. We have found that it has been very much appreciated, and should the practice be continued (as we hope it will) it is our intention to extend the bonus to the management and clerical staff of the head office and the factories in this country, including any directors who may be in receipt of salaries.

CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS.

Before I sit down I may mention that it is our hope that we may be able to carry on our business in the future without any additional difficulties, anxious as they sometimes have been. Our annual profits, with some slight set-backs, have been progressive. Each year our sales have invariably been in excess of the previous year.

Smoking is on the increase, and how much the pipe and cigarette are appreciated the man in the trenches is the best witness. The sales of the company and of our associated companies for the first three months of our present financial year (October to December) show an increase of about 25 per cent. upon the corresponding three months of last year. We

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

BRITISH WAR CONTRI- BUTIONS FROM CANTON.

A further sum of £200, making £1,910 10s. since the beginning of last year, subscribed by British Residents in Canton, has been remitted to London during December, January and February, as undernoted:—

British Ambulance Committee	£ 25
Kensington War Hospital Supply	25
Depot	25
Lord Roberts Memorial Fund	25
Mesopotamia Comforts Fund	25
Officers' Families Fund	50
Patriotic League of Britons	50
Overseas	125
Prisoners of War Fund	125
Sailors' Widows and Orphans	75
Fund	75
St. Dunstan's Home for Blind	75
Soldiers and Sailors	75
Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund	25
	£500

The following is a list of the Subscribers to date:—

Already acknowledged—£12,953.57 and £44 10s.

Anderson, Dr. K. J. Webb, per, \$20.14
S. M. Bander, \$3; Banque de l'Indo
China (Monday Bridge), \$100; E.
Barton, \$10; K. B. Batchelor, \$20; E.
G. Becke, \$60; F. B. Bell, \$25; W.
Hoanna, \$15; C. H. Bowker, \$20; Rev.
H. Bmy, \$25; British Red Cross
(Balance), \$37.58; C., \$30; E. C.
Charrington, \$10; J. Chippenfield, \$10;
J. E. B. de Courcy, \$35; A. H. Craig,
\$10; J. H. Crocker, \$20; O. W. Darch,
\$20; Rev. H. Davies, \$25; H. F. Dent,
\$20; P. A. V. Dixon, \$15; O. Eager,
\$20; H. Ellis, \$10; H. T. Foord, \$75;
D. Forbes, \$180; E. A. C. Friederichsen,
\$18; Rev. C. A. Gaff, \$15; E. E.
Garrard, \$20; Golf Club (Lottery),
\$29.55; Golf Club Competition, \$20;
T. E. Griffith, \$70; per T.
Griffith, \$20; T. E. Griffith, Ltd.,
\$250; H. P. Harris, \$30; P.
O. Hill, Oakley, \$20; A. Hoff-
meister, \$10; A. V. Hogg, \$20; Dr.
A. W. Hooker, \$30; G. Hoppeler, \$15;
A. Hosen, \$30; D. B. Izatt, \$10;
J. W. Jamieson, \$75; Rev. P. Jenkins,
\$15; F. E. Joseland, \$20; O. C. Kench,
\$20; G. C. Kitching, \$120; A. Komaroff,
\$10; Kung Shao Chiang, \$205; C.
McAlum, \$100 and £25; Rev. Geo.
H. McNeur, \$7.50; Rev. D. MacRae, \$25;
A. Martin, \$15; R. T. Matheson, \$20;
A. Miller, \$20; H. C. Mullin, \$20;
R. C. G. Ogilvy, \$10; C. A. Peel, \$20;
G. L. Read, \$20; Dr. W. G. Reynolds,
\$15; C. H. J. Ross, \$25; H. E. Sande-
mann, \$20; H. C. Scrimshaw, \$15;
H. Shields, \$180; Frank Smith, \$20;
H. Staples Smith, \$20; J. T. Smith,
\$20; W. Gordon States, \$20; H. Sutton,
\$20; Rev. S. G. Tope, \$20; V.
C., \$20; C. E. Watson, \$15; E. J.
White, \$20; A. G. Wilson, \$20; W.
Wood, \$20; N. A. Worley, \$20.

Copies of the Circular issued by the Committee with regard to War Contributions can be obtained from Mr. D. Forbes, c/o Hongkong Bank, Canton, to whom further Donations and Subscriptions should be sent.

The following letter, dated London, 20th December, 1916, acknowledging the sum of £750 (not included in the above amount), the result of the Garden Fete organized by the British Ladies of Canton on "Our Day," has been received from the Chairman of the Finance Committee, British Red Cross Society:—

"I have to thank you for your letter of the 15th November enclosing draft value £750, being a contribution to our funds in response to the 'Our Day' appeal from the British ladies of Canton, as the result of a Garden Fete on October 19th.

Our official receipt is enclosed herewith. I am desired by Lord Lansdowne and the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John to ask that you will be so good as to convey on our behalf to the British ladies of Canton how warmly grateful we are for the generous help they send to us, and to assure them how keenly we appreciate the sympathetic and practical interest they show in our work for the sick and wounded of His Majesty's Forces.

With our thanks to you for having forwarded the Contribution."

COMPANY REPORT.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

Subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., will recommend, at the forthcoming annual general meeting, that:—

A final dividend of £2.50, with a bonus of 3d. per share, be paid to shareholders, £223,424.23, be written off plant and build, £200,000 be added to Reserve fund, £50,000 be paid as bonus to the European staff, and about \$500,000 be carried forward.

hope to maintain that increase throughout the year, and to be able to meet you next January with a satisfactory balance sheet.

You are, of course, aware that we have for the year 1916-17 declared an interim dividend of 6 per cent. payable on the 1st inst. so that on that day you will receive 11 per cent.

The report and accounts were adopted.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

THE METHOD OF CONTROL.

[BY THE RT. HON. SIR THOMAS WHITTAKER, M.P.]

When the State had acquired the liquor trade, it should conduct the whole business—manufacture, importation and retail sale in this country—as a national concern, with as complete a monopoly and control as is possessed by the Post Office.

A Central Liquor Control Board should be constituted as a State Department, consisting of a Minister in and responsible to Parliament as its President, and a Board of Commissioners, say, three in number, on the lines of the Inland Revenue Commissioners and the National Insurance Commissioners, with a permanent staff of trade experts—brewers, distillers, and public-house managers—together with finance and social welfare secretaries. The country would be divided into districts, in each of which there would be responsible officials with a staff of experts and inspectors, who, under the instructions of the Central Board would manage the trade in their areas.

NUMBER OF HOUSES AND HOURS OF SALE.

The Act of Parliament which authorised the transfer of the trade to the State and fixed the basis of the terms of purchase would presumably lay down the broad lines upon which the business should be conducted, while it would leave considerable latitude to the Commissioners. The Act should fix the maximum number of houses in proportion to population that should be allowed to sell intoxicants, the proportion varying in urban and rural areas. The maximum number of hours of sale should also be fixed. Within the limits of the maximum thus fixed, the Central Board should have power to decide that in any district or area, or all districts, the number of public-houses should be less than the maximum, and that the number of hours during which they should be permitted should be fewer. They should also be able to vary the hours and conditions in particular houses.

The experience and local knowledge of the Licensing Justices should be retained. They should have power to determine that the number of public-houses should be less and the hours of sale fewer than the Central Board proposed. They should also be able to say that particular houses should be closed. The same powers of Board and the local justices with regard to closing on Sundays, Saturday evenings, public holidays, and the evenings before such holidays. In this way Parliament would fix the maximum for all similar areas; then the Central Board would decide what, if any, further restriction appeared to be necessary, either generally or in particular localities, and the local justices would be able to revise these decisions in the direction of further restriction in their own areas, if they thought it desirable to do so. It would be essential to acceptance of the scheme that provision should be made to give to the people in their respective localities power to decide by vote whether they desired the trade to continue in that area or not.

THE MANAGEMENT.

At the commencement of the Board's work, for a few years (say seven or ten), it might be desirable to have an Advisory Board associated with the Central Board, composed, say, of such men as an experienced chairman of Licensing Justices, the present chairman of the Liquor Control Board, a social reformer, an exponent of Temperance views, a representative of Labour, and one of working men's clubs, and someone well acquainted with the working of the Scandinavian and Russian systems of controlled management.

One of the first results of transferring the control of the trade to the State would be that the number of premises in which drink is manufactured and sold would be enormously reduced. The reduction at once should be at least one-third, and possibly one-half. For conducting the remaining breweries, distilleries and public-houses, the most competent and satisfactory of the present managers, staff and licence-holders would, no doubt, be retained. Some difficulty would be experienced at first in making the publicans who were retained adapt themselves to the new conditions and conduct the business accordingly. In many cases there would, no doubt, be trouble, and very strict supervision would be necessary; but if it were clearly understood that any evasion of regulations or disregard of instructions as to the supply of drink would involve dismissal and forfeiture of retiring allowance, a great improvement would gradually be brought about.

The control of the trade in hotels, restaurants, clubs and railway refreshment rooms would require special care. It would be essential to the success of the proposal that the financial interest of these concerns in the sale of drink should be bought out under the purchase scheme so that there should not be any appreciable direct financial interest in the sale of drink left anywhere where it could be eliminated. It is clear that if the State's control of the sale of drink throughout the country is to be complete and effective, it must be free from the complications which would result from the uncontrolled competition of any of these places. Hotels, restaurants and clubs could not be taken over and managed by the State, and liquor would have to be supplied in a large number of houses. As their present financial interest in the sale would have been bought, the Central Board of Commissioners would start with a clean sheet, and it would be their duty to prevent a new direct financial interest from growing up in these places. There would be two ways of doing this. One would be to appoint paid servants of the Government to conduct the sale of drink in them on behalf of the State, a payment, of the nature of a "being made to the proprietors. If that were not possible in all

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

NO. 2, COMPANY "RECRUITS" PLATOON.

All Recruits of this Company not yet performing Patrol duty will be warned for such duty as from March 1st. They are made individually responsible for obtaining in due time the necessary uniform for patrol duty, i.e., blue uniform and cap, without cover.

TRANSFER.

P.-ca. 601 Pereira and 737 Hyndman are transferred from Maxim Gunners to No. 2 Company as from March 1st next.

BAND.

Practice—Friday, Feb. 23rd.

JOINED.

No. 2 Company—P.-ca. 402 F. Z. V. Ribeiro and P.-ca. 403 A. O. Barrada.

(Sd.) F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.).

February 21st, 1917.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

HONGKONG AND CHINA DISTRICT.

Victoria Division.—Members will attend the second part of the First Aid Examination at the Tung Wah Hospital to-morrow (Friday), the 23rd inst., at 8 p.m.

Company Drill, Thursday, March 1st, at 5.15 p.m.

(Sgd.) E. RALPHS, (Officer in charge of District).

February 22nd, 1917.

NO. 1 HONGKONG V.A.D.

COMMANDANT—LADY MAY.

ASST. COMMANDANT—MRS. CHURCHILL.

Members are reminded that the Monthly Meeting will take place at the Military Hospital to-morrow (Friday), the 23rd inst., at 10.30 a.m., when a lecture will be given by Mrs. Hickling, L.R.C.P. and S., on the Sterilising of Instruments and the Preparation of Surgical Dressings.

Uniform will not be worn.

Attendance at the lecture will be duly recorded.

(Sd.) M. RALPHS, Adjutant and Hon. Secretary.

February 22nd, 1917.

cases, the liquor required might be supplied by the State under the condition that it should be sold at specified fixed prices, a discount sufficient only to cover working expenses being allowed.

GROCERS' AND OTHER LICENCES.

Grocers' licences, confectioners' wine licences, and the licences of theatres and music-halls would have to be dealt with. It would be necessary to purchase all of them at the same time as the trade as a whole was being acquired. I should hope that when these liquor interests had been purchased, they would be abolished. Grocers' licences have been a great evil, and have much to promote drinking amongst women. Confectioners' wine licences are very much in the same category. There would be no sufficient reason for continuing either of them. The same may be said of the sale of drink in theatres and music-halls. All these places would be put to rest without it, and an end should be put to it as soon as the State had bought up the present interest in it.

LATITUDE FOR EXPERIMENTS.

It would be unwise to lay down in the Act of Parliament hard and fast lines on which the Control Board should manage the trade. General principles would, of course, be stated, limits beyond which they should not go as regards the number of houses, hours of sale and the like, would be fixed, and the financial arrangements would be clear and definite; but all other details should be left to the Board to work out from time to time as experience suggested. About some points there would be a considerable difference of opinion. Some people would like to develop public-houses into places of general resort, somewhat on the Continental safe system, where all kinds of refreshments could be had, and some music and entertainment listened to. On the other hand, there are those who are convinced that it would be a great mistake to attract people, and especially women and young people, to places where drink was sold, and that the wiser course would be to provide the attractive café with its refreshments and entertainment altogether apart from public-houses and where intoxicants were not obtainable. One great advantage of getting the trade completely under the control of the State would be that it would be possible to make many experiments and adapt the arrangements to local requirements. It would be possible to put suggestions, to the test of trial before adopting them generally. Various classes of places and different methods of conducting the sale of drink could and would be tried, and the experience thereby gained would be invaluable. It would be a great mistake, therefore, to have any precise system of management or any stereotyped set of regulations embodied in an Act of Parliament. A wide latitude should be left to the Control Board.

SOBERITY AND IMPROVEMENT THE OBJECT.

As the object of the State in taking over the control of the trade would be to promote the sobriety and well-being of the people, to meet only definite and legitimate requirements, and not to create a demand for drink or push the sale of it, it may be taken as certain that at the very outset great changes would be made. Back-doors, side-entrances down passages or in narrow and obscure streets, which all be closed. Screens, partitions, swept away. The business should be done in the light of day. Everyone knows that the scope for improvement in the structure, character, and conduct of many of the houses is enormous, and that if once the direct personal financial interest in the desirable arrangements and conditions which prevail in so many cases now were not rid of, that improvement would immediately and as a matter of course be made.—Daily Chronicle.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

BANISHMENT.

For returning from banishment a Chinese was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour and also ordered to be placed in the stocks for four hours. The man was only banished last year, and was found wandering about the Colony on Tuesday.

ASSAULT.

Two members of the crew of the King Edward Hotel launch were charged with assaulting a sampan man who was, at one time, also employed on the hotel launch. The complainant, whose head revealed traces of severe usage, said the men set upon him, for no apparent reason, in Praya East on the 16th inst. The defendants denied all knowledge of the affair, but Mr. Melbourne, after hearing evidence, imposed a fine of \$5 each and also ordered the defendants to each pay \$15 compensation to the complainant.

A DANGEROUS CHARACTER.

With the apparent object of buying rice a Chinese approached a rice stall, presided over by a woman, at Wanchai on Tuesday. He said he wanted to buy some rice, and, eventually, a dispute arose. In the course of the dispute the man snatched up a chopper and slashed the stall holder on the arm with it.

It was stated that the defendant had previously served a sentence of three months for a similar offence, and Mr. Wood now sentenced him to six months' hard labour.

AN ARMED MAN.

On Tuesday Inspector Gerrard was informed that there was a man in a tea house at Yaumati in possession of a revolver. The Inspector proceeded to the tea house and found a Chinese in possession of an automatic pistol, fully loaded, and with one bullet already in the chamber. The man said that the pistol had been given him by a friend from the country for the purpose of selling it.

Inspector Gerrard gave the defendant a somewhat shady character and Mr. Wood imposed a fine of \$250, and also ordered the arms to be confiscated.

ABSCONDING DEFENDANT.

When the name of the defendant in the child cruelty case was called in Mr. Melbourne's court, it was stated that she had not appeared, and Inspector O'Sullivan expressed the opinion that she had absconded.

Mr. Gardiner, defending, said he had no knowledge of the defendant. Her son had called on him the previous day, and the women was to have called on him that morning, but she had not done so.

A warrant was ordered to be issued, and the bail of \$250 was ordered to be forfeited.

A HARBOUR STORY.

The manoeuvring of a sampan around a ship in the harbour on Tuesday aroused the suspicions of Sergt. Bond. The latter saw the occupants go alongside the ship and take on board a roll of canvas, a quantity of brushes, etc. Inquiries were not on foot, and it was discovered that the Chinese storekeeper of the vessel had been paid off that day, and had ordered the things to be taken off; in fact he had made very good use of his keys.

The storekeeper appeared before Mr. Wood yesterday, and was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

ALL HIS SAVINGS.

When charged with attempting to export 150 silver dollars, a Foochow Chinese said that the money represented his four years' savings in Java, where he had worked as a hawker. He brought the money to Hongkong in gilders and changed it into silver dollars; he did not know it was wrong. It was better, he added, to have silver dollars in the country.

A fine of \$10 was imposed, and the defendant was told to re-change the silver dollars into notes and sub-coins.

For endeavouring to export 35 silver dollars, a Chinese was fined \$25, and the money was ordered to be confiscated.

THEFTS FROM GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

A young Chinese named Chae Sing, who has been employed as a messenger at Government House for the past five months, and who, previous to that, had

(Continued at foot of next column.)

ANCHORS OF THE "HUE,"
CHIEF OFFICER FOUND GUILTY
AND SENTENCED.

The hearing was concluded at the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday of the charge against M. Baliany, ex-chief officer of the s.s. Hue, of the theft of two anchors belonging to the Hue of the value of \$500. It was alleged that the defendant sold the anchors to a marine store dealer.

The defendant himself gave evidence, and, replying to Mr. Jenkin, who is defending, denied that he gave the document (produced) to any person.

This was a document referring to the disposal of some anchors. Several other papers were also handed to the defendant by Mr. Jenkin, but he denied that they were in his handwriting. He absolutely denied all knowledge of the theft of the anchors.

Replying to Mr. Wood, defendant admitted that someone must have stolen the anchors. He (defendant) had his suspicions, but that was all.

Answering Inspector Gordon, defendant denied offering to buy the anchors back; what he said, when at the Tsim Tsoi police station, was that he would pay \$250 as bail. He did not mean that that sum was to buy back the anchors.

Mr. John Lambert, Lloyd's Surveyor, who had examined the anchors, said that where the Lloyd's marks usually were the anchors had been hammered. There were marks there, but they were not decipherable.

Mr. Jenkin asked for the case to be sent for trial, as defendant was anxious to have the case thoroughly investigated.

His Worship pointed out that it was the practice in Hongkong to only send cases for trial which Magistrates thought should receive more than six months' hard labour, and in this case, if defendant were found guilty, he did not think that more than six months should be inflicted.

Mr. Wood then said he had no doubt that the defendant had sold the two anchors to the Chinese, and that the evidence given by himself and his wife, as well as that of the two Chinese witnesses for the defence, was false. He also noticed that at one time Mr. Jenkin said that the defence would be that the second officer, named Martinson, had stolen the anchors. Nothing had been brought out in the case to support that, and he thought that accusation should never have been made at all. He would pass sentence of three months' hard labour.

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

2ND DIVISION.

32ND COY. R.G.A. v. NAVY RES.

This match was played on the Navy Ground yesterday. The Navy were the first to find the net, Barclay scoring, following some good forward play by Smith and himself. The soldiers never recovered the lost ground, although they made strenuous efforts. Lieut. Jones and Lieut. Hall, being especially conspicuous in trying to snatch a victory for their side. Late in the game the soldiers had the better of the exchanges, but their efforts came too late, the Navy staying off all attacks and winning by a goal to nil.

POLICE RESERVE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOT.

An open championship shoot in connection with the Hongkong Police Reserve, for a cup presented by H.E. the Governor, will take place on the Sports Grounds on Good Friday, April 6th, commencing at 10 a.m. sharp. The targets will be 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, and 600 yards groupings (five rounds, no sighter); and 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600 yards deliberate; seven rounds, and one sighter at each range. Competitors will provide their own ammunition. Capt. G. G. Wood, H.K.V.C., will be the range officer, and the competition is open to any experienced shot in the Colony on April 1st. All communications in connection with the shoot should be addressed to Inspector H. A. Lambert, H.K.P.R. Headquarters, Club, Prince's Buildings, Ice House Street.

been employed at the P. and O. offices for three years, was charged with the theft of \$3.16, money which was contained in five envelopes which were handed to defendant to deliver.

Mr. Deacon (Governor's Constable) said that on the 18th inst. he handed five letters to the lakong on duty at Government House, and he, in turn, handed them to the defendant to be delivered on the 17th. These letters contained money to pay bills—the Hongkong Electric Co., 49 cents; the U.S.R.C., \$3.98; the Hongkong Club, 60 cents; the Hongkong Jockey Club, 60 cents and the South China Morning Post, 50 cents. The defendant did not deliver the envelopes, and when questioned about this he admitted having taken the money out of the envelopes, because he was "hard up and wanted money badly." The Governor's constable added that the defendant came to Government House with a very good character from the P. and O. Company.

Defendant was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

HONGKONG CRIMINAL
SESSIONS.

FORGERY AND FALSE PRETENCES.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR WILLIAM REES DAVIES).

The last case on the calendar at the Criminal Sessions, yesterday, was that in which Frank Carlyle Castlemaine was indicted for (1) forgery; (2) uttering a forged instrument; (3) obtaining credit by false pretences.

Mr. G. N. Orme, of the Attorney-General's office, prosecuted for the Crown. The prisoner was undefended.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. Charles Edward Warren (foreman), Lancelot Barton, Charles Wallace, Philip Robert Wolff, Luiz Gonzaga, and Fairbairn Naikanos Tata.

Mr. Orme, in opening the case, said the prisoner was engaged by the Asiatic Petroleum Company for a few months—from June till the middle of September—last year. He left then, and there was not much trace of him till December 30th, when, late in the afternoon, he went to the Seamen's Institute and produced what purported to be a letter from Mr. W. A. Butterfield, the superintending engineer of the Company, guaranteeing board and lodging to the extent of \$35 a month at that Institute. This letter was accepted by the manageress, and, on the strength of it, prisoner was taken into the Institute, and incurred a bill which amounted to \$14.60. At that point suspicions were aroused, or something came to light which led to inquiries being made, and prisoner was arrested on a charge of obtaining board and lodging with intent of defraud.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Butterfield was not in the Colony at the time, and had not seen the prisoner since he left the Colony in the middle of September till he went to the Magistracy to give evidence in the present case. In order to give the letter a more veracious appearance it was written on the Asiatic Petroleum Company's notepaper. When Inspector Sutherland went to arrest the prisoner at his lodging he found several pieces of the Company's stationery. Evidence would be given by Mr. Frank Allan, husband of Mrs. Allan, the manageress of the Institute. The prisoner saw him first and handed him the letter, and Allan gave it to his wife, who, in consequence, provided the prisoner with board and lodging to the extent stated. Mr. Butterfield would state that the letter was not in his handwriting, and Mr. Dover, handwriting expert, would point out the resemblance of the writing in the letter to other writings found in the prisoner's possession.

Frank Allan, Sanitary Inspector, husband of the manageress of the Seamen's Institute, was first called.

Asked by the Chief Justice how he came to suspect the bona fides of the letter, witness said it was not like a letter written by a business man.

The Chief Justice—If it was a forgery, it was rather a silly and clumsy one and bound to be discovered before long—Witness—That is so.

Mrs. Allan gave corroborative evidence, and, in reply to cross-examination by the prisoner, said she could not explain why the amount in the original charge against him was now \$74.60. She knew that he got a week's board and lodging and that came to \$14.60.

The Chief Justice—What was there about the letter that made you think it genuine? Witness: It had the name of the Asiatic Petroleum Company on the top.

Do you know the meaning of the expression in the letter—"Bills o.k." will be met by this office? I suppose you know that means "bills all right"—Yes.

W. A. Butterfield, engineer, Asiatic Petroleum Company, said the prisoner was in the Company's office under him from June to September last year. After the latter date he ceased to be employed by them. Witness did not see him again till he attended as a witness in connection with the present charge. He had seen the letter upon which the prosecution was based. It was not a letter from him and the signature attached to it was not his.

Prisoner—You stated in the Court below that it did not bear the slightest resemblance to your real signature—Witness: None whatever.

Is the document I show you a letter written and signed by you?—Yes.

Prisoner requested that this letter should be put in to show that at the time of this alleged forgery he was in possession of a letter actually written by Mr. Butterfield and signed by him.

The request was granted.

The Hon. Mr. C. McI. Messer, Captain Superintendent of Police, deposed to the prisoner presenting a filled up registration form to him in July last. Prisoner signed the form and he (the Captain Superintendent) witnessed it.

Inspector Sullivan deposed to the prisoner being arrested on a charge of forgery and false pretences on 5th January. When warned and asked if he had anything to say, prisoner said he preferred to make no statement. In two boxes belonging to the prisoner newspaper and envelopes were found having the name of the Asiatic Petroleum Company printed on them.

E. R. Dovey, Government Analyst, spoke to having examined the letter in the case and other documents put before him, which were stated to be in the prisoner's handwriting. He found many resemblances in the writing of the documents, and the writing in all had peculiarities and characteristics, some of which were very uncommon. One or two he had never met before. Witness produced photographic enlargements illustrating the peculiarities referred to, which he explained to the Court and jury. He answered a number of questions put to him by the prisoner.

No. 1 Boy at the Seamen's Institute deposed to the prisoner coming to the Institute on the 13th December. He paid part of his board and lodging to the 20th, when \$2.80 was due from him. The tariff at the Institute was 40 cents a night.

THE DEFENCE.

Prisoner elected to give evidence on his own behalf. He spoke from notes, and apologised for doing so, saying he had been ill and under medical treatment during the time he had been in prison. The main features of a long story were that towards the end of December last he had met an acquaintance named Goodale, a marine engineer, who had been left behind ill by his ship in the care of the American Consul. He gave loans of small sums to this man, who was desirous to get employment here. He (prisoner) recommended him to try the Asiatic Petroleum Company, and some time after the man came to him and said he had been engaged by that Company to go to Manila, that there was another man wanted and he had mentioned his (prisoner's) name to Mr. Butterfield. Subsequently they agreed, on prisoner's suggestion, that if the Company did not want their services right away they should get some sort of acknowledgment and some expenses. Goodale went away and afterwards reported that the Company had agreed to allow them at the rate of \$65 per month during the time they were in Hongkong. Prisoner said it would be better to have it in writing, and he drafted letters for them both and had them typed in Mr. Butterfield's office and ready for signature by the latter. Goodale came to him the same afternoon and handed him his letter in a sealed envelope. He did not open the letter but handed it to Mr. Allan. If he had seen the signature he would have noticed at once that it was not Mr. Butterfield's. As he had letters with Mr. Butterfield's signature in his possession he had copied it to let the Court and jury see what the signature would have been if he had attempted to copy it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Orme prisoner said that having drafted the letter and left it to be typed he took the one given him to be genuine. He did not know where Goodale was now, and being in prison he had no opportunity of making inquiries. He did not know that the police would have made inquiries. He did not mention Goodale's name when arrested, as he wished to save him the unpleasantness of newspaper publicity. Prisoner produced a number of I.O.U.'s in his handwriting for exhibition to the jury.

In the course of a long written address to the jury, prisoner said he was an American graduate in science and a qualified engineer. He traversed the evidence which had been given and said the prosecution had not proved any of the counts of the indictment. He was conversant with Mr. Butterfield's signature, and had a letter bearing it in his possession. He had given them a reasonable explanation of how he came to have the letter with the false signature, and it was not likely, if he did wish to forge Mr. Butterfield's signature, that he would have done it so clumsily. Nobody but a lunatic would have committed the crimes with which he was charged, knowing that they would be discovered sooner or later.

The Chief Justice afterwards summed up, and the jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of not guilty of the first count and guilty of the others. Sentence of eighteen months' hard labour was then passed.

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THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of EXCHANGE BUSINESS on MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 26th, 27th and 28th instant, at 11.45 A.M. Hongkong, 21st February, 1917. [321]

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LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated, in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and sub. exchange.

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TENDERS.

SEALED TENDERS are invited for UPHOLSTERY, DYING, DRY-CLEANING WORK and MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES for H.M. Naval Establishments for One Year from the 1st April next.

Tenders will be received at the Commodore's Office until Noon on FRIDAY, 9th March, 1917.

Forms of Tender may be obtained on application to the NAVAL STORE OFFICER, H.M. Naval Yard.

The right is reserved of rejecting all or any Tenders and of accepting any portion of a Tender.

G. L. PLATT,
Naval Store Officer.

H.M. Dockyard,
Hongkong, 20th February, 1917. [323]

TENDERS.

TENDERS are invited for the Supply of TIMBER, TIMBER MATERIALS and SPARS to H.M. Naval Yard for One Year from 1st April next.

Forms of Tender with full particulars may be obtained on application to the NAVAL STORE OFFICER.

Tenders must reach H.M. Dockyard not later than 5th March next.

G. L. PLATT,
Naval Store Officer.

H.M. Dockyard,
Hongkong, 19th February, 1917. [324]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

TO-DAY (THURSDAY),

the 22nd February, 1917, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 7, Middle Row, Kowloon,

THE VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

do., do., do.,

contained therein

Comprising—Hall Stand and Table, Handsomely Carved Blackwood Desk, Music Cabinet, Stands, do., Oil Paintings, Water Colours and Engravings, Hand-painted Madras Muslin Curtains (new), Ornaments and Vases, including a few pieces of Carved Ivory, do., large Marble-top Sideboard, Extension Dining Table and Chairs, Leather-covered Upholstered Suite, Glass Ware (including Cut-Glass), large Binger Service (Crown Derby), Cutlery, do., Double and Single Bedsteads, Wardrobes, Dressing Tables, Shaving Mirror, Roll-top Desk, do., Bath Room, Pantry and Kitchen Utensils.

Also
Boudoir Grand Piano by Winkelmans
Brasschweig in very good condition, Electric Fittings, Plants in Pots, do., do.
On view WEDNESDAY, 21st inst., from 2 P.M. Catalogues will be issued.

Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers. [325]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

TO-MORROW (FRIDAY),

the 23rd February, 1917, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 17, Kennedy Road (Top Flat),

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

do., do., do.,

therein contained.

Consisting of—
Teakwood Hall Stand, Roll-top Desk and Bookcase Combined, Handsomely Carved Massive Blackwood Sideboard, Large Blackwood Silver Cabinet, Bevelled Ormamented Mirror in Blackwood Frame, Blackwood Fire Screen with Blue and White Panels, Large Blackwood Round Dining Table, Silk Tapestry-covered Arm-chairs and Chesterfield Sofa, Brass Double Bed (practically new), Teakwood Wardrobe, Bureau, and Washstand all with Bevelled Mirrors, a few lots of Pictures, Table and Bed Linen, Glass Ware, do.
One Good Dinner Service, Copper Fender and Fire Irons, Ice Chest, Shanghai Bath, do., do.

Also
One Upright Grand Piano by John Broadwood & Sons, London (practically new and in splendid condition).
N.B.—Special attention is called to the TEAKWOOD BEDROOM SUITE, this having been made to owner's design and under his supervision; also to the CARVED BLACKWOOD SIDEBOARD and BLACKWOOD DINING TABLE.

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Catalogues will be issued.

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HUGHES & HOUGH,
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FOR SALE.

BABY'S PERAMBULATOR in good condition. Cost \$70.00. No reasonable offer refused.

Apply to—
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [318]

TO LET.

NO. 46, ELGIN STREET, 6 Room House.

From 1st April.
Apply to—
DR. M. E. ASGER,
New Post Office Building. [289]

TO LET.

2 NEW HOUSES now Building in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation on 1st February, 1917. For rent and other particulars apply to—

H. M. H. NEMAZEE,
1 Des Voeux Road. [108]

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET.

Apply to—
PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING. [102]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED, 3, Stewart Terrace.

Apply—
H. E. POLLOCK,
Princes' Buildings. [97]

TO LET.

FLATS in "EWO MESS," No. 5, THE

Apply, Property Office,
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd. [80]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road

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Apply to—
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE Co., Ltd. [72]

TO LET.

GODOWN in Duddell Street. Light and airy Offices overlooking Statue Square.

Moderate rent.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
"H."

Care of "Daily Press" Office. [88]

TO LET.

OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Buildings.

Apply to—
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. [69]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. [291]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

HOUSES in King's and York Buildings.

HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.

HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.

HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.

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Consignees of cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.

All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on TUESDAY, Feb. 27th at 10 A.M. All claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns and all goods remaining undelivered after March 1st will be subject to rent.

No fire insurance whatever will be offered. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading immediately for countersignature.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.,
By R. C. MORTON,
General Agent. [88]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 22nd February, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, 12th February, to THURSDAY, 22nd February, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. S. BROWN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1917. [260]

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

THE TWENTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, 84, George's Buildings, No. 8, Connaught Road, TO-MORROW (FRIDAY), the 23rd Feb., 1917, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 18th February, 1917, until FRIDAY, the 23rd February, 1917, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1917. [293]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 24th day of February, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 12th February, to SATURDAY, the 24th February, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STARR,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1917. [281]

WANTED.

GOVERNESS for three months, daily or for mornings only, for one or two Young Children, Kowloon.

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Box 20,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [313]

WANTED.

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DR. KITASHIMA,
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Good salary offered.

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WANTED.

ENGINEER, Br. steamer, for Harbour or Shop. Apply in own writing with copy res., stating age and salary required, to

W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.
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THIS Auxiliary House Boat "PLOVER" is H.P. Parsons' Patent Motor, with complete outfit. New sails recently put up. Inspection invited. Address offers by letter only to—

SANG KEE,
Care of COMPTON,
HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK. [309]

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ONE 101 H.P. HORNSBY ACRYOYD OIL ENGINE complete with and coupled direct to one 6 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo of 50/70 volts with shunt regulator.

ALSO ONE SWITCHBOARD for ACCUMULATORS, DYNAMO, etc., complete with instruments for 100 Amps.

For further particulars apply to—
LINDSEY & DAVIS,
Alexandra Buildings. [161]

ON SALE.

A TABLE OF THE RATES OF EXCHANGE AT BOMBAY For Demand Drafts on London on the day of or preceding the departure of the English Mails; also Table of the Yearly Approximate Average for 36 years.

PRICE \$2 CASE.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 22ND FEBRUARY, 1917.

THE GOLDEN AGE.

The splendid success of the great British War Loan is as pleasing to all true friends of civilisation as it must be disturbing to the rulers of the Central Powers. Once again the financial prophets of the era before 1914 have been proved wrong in their forecasts about war and expenditure. We cannot altogether blame them, for the political and military experts were quite as far out in their estimates concerning the effect of a struggle with Germany as were the bankers and financiers. Since August, 1914, most of us have realised how dangerous it is to dogmatise concerning future events. Yet hope is continually spurring us on to effort, and it is only our inborn belief in the future that supplies us with the dynamic power to struggle on to something better than the present. For that reason, despite the shattering of the fairest hopes of humanity by the ravishers of Belgium, Poland and Serbia, we all of us instinctively respond to the appeal of any leader who, like Mr. Lloyd George, asks us for further sacrifice in order to assure light, instead of darkness, for the world in years to come. The story of the war loan contributions to the State that have been made in response to the rousing words of the Prime Minister and those associated with him, is merely a re-echo of the magnificent story of voluntary enlistment during the first few months of the war. The greater the demand, the more willing the sacrifice; the citizens of the British Empire to-day are

ready and eager to surpass all that has hitherto been accomplished. All that is necessary is for their leaders to point out, in simple language and sincerity, what is their duty, and they will do it gladly. In this Colony there are men and women eager and willing to do more than they have yet done, but they require to be told explicitly what they can do effectually to help the great cause. Nobody has grumbled at the demands for service; the only criticisms that have been made have been that not enough has been asked, not sufficient service demanded.

Nor must we, in our righteous horror and loathing at the brutalities and outrages of our enemy, fail to recognise one elementary virtue of the German soldier. Fritz has gone to his death with a blind, hopeless, obstinate, astonishing heroism, which has compelled both our admiration and our pity for those grey-clad hosts who have marched, without faltering, to certain destruction. The close formation, the compact, deep and disciplined masses have been fighting on behalf of a poisonous doctrine, a terrible creed; but they have died like brave men. We only honour our own troops, and ourselves, by frankly recognising the valour of those German hordes. Their devotion makes us think that, incredibly inhuman and noxious as is the devastating creed of "Deutschland Uber Alles," its falseness must have been cleverly disguised by those who taught it.

Although many peoples profess to forecast the future, most of us are extremely sceptical as to their ability to do so. Whatever we may think about the possibilities of communicating with the dead, we are convinced that we cannot unveil the future. Before us lie the events, national and personal, which will affect us all profoundly. In the knowledge that, in nature, the calm follows the storm, we look forward yearningly to the age which will follow this terrible welter of blood and terror. We are as determined as ever, as a nation—and our Allies are equally determined—to continue the war until there is every prospect that humanity will be assured of a lasting peace. We may be called upon to make further sacrifice, but, if so, the call will be cheerfully responded to. Whatever sacrifice or patience is needed, we are all convinced that the light must go on in order to secure, if not for ourselves then for posterity, the Golden Age that lies ahead. In the early stages of the development of man, it was supposed that the golden age was in the past; now we believe that it lies in the future. Cynics may say that it is but a mirage beckoning us on, and compelling us to make greater exertions to reach it; we heed them not. For those of us who have relatives or friends fighting at the front, the Golden Age will commence when peace is signed; then, and not until then, shall we be relieved of our anxiety for those who are fighting our battles. But we are willing, if need be, to postpone the dawn of that new era to ensure that it shall be lasting. That is our duty both to those who have made the supreme sacrifice for us and to posterity.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$8 from the Chinese Baptist Church to the funds of the Hospitals. Those interested in the work of Dr. Barnardo's Homes will be interested to know that the offertories at St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, last Sunday were on behalf of this deserving object and realised the sum of \$670.

A paper on 'Wesleyanism' is to be read by the Rev. T. Robinson at a meeting of the Church of England Men's Society at St. Paul's College, commencing at 9 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

Yesterday, sitting in Original Jurisdiction, the Chief Justice granted a petition presented by the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., on behalf of the Green Island Cement Company, requesting the Court's authority to a reduction of the Company's capital. Mr. Sharp said the Company was inaugurated in 1889, with four thousand \$10 shares issued and fully paid up. It was sought to reduce the sum per share to \$7.50, \$2.50 to be paid from capital to each shareholder, thereby reducing the capital by a million dollars. The reduction had been passed and confirmed by the shareholders by resolution at an extraordinary general meeting.

ROUND HONGKONG BY

MOTOR-CAR.

DESCRIPTION OF THE JOURNEY.

On Sunday Mr. Owen Hughes and Mr. Forbes (of Harry Wicking & Co.) circled the island in a small motor-car. Though this is not the first occasion upon which this feat has been achieved, the gentlemen named may claim to be the first amateur motorists to complete the round trip. About three months ago Mr. Laurence, of the Dragon Cycle Company, managed to get round the island in a small car with little difficulty. Some years previous to this, also, an attempt was made with a large car, but gangs of coolies had to be requisitioned to lift it around sharp and narrow bends. The journey, however, was eventually completed.

The trip made on Sunday was not without incident. It was undertaken in a small grey "Tiny," and the route chosen was via Deep Water Bay, across the golf course, on to Stanley, then to Tytam Tak, going below the reservoir, on to Shauiwan, and then home. The journey to Stanley and Tytam was quite an easy matter, but the next stage of the trip, from Tytam to Shauiwan, proved somewhat trying. Progress between these two places could only be made by way of a narrow path, punctuated with bamboo bridges. The pathway was completely blocked by the small car, and travelling was necessarily slow, the bends being exceedingly sharp. Moreover, when passing over the bamboo bridges only the Chinese chauffeur remained in the car, owing to the very frail nature of their construction. The time taken for the round trip was two and three-quarter hours.

Mr. Forbes remarked to a *Daily Press* representative yesterday that the Chinese chauffeur looked upon himself as a hero among chauffeurs as a result of the trip. The only difficulty, and danger, experienced was when travelling between Tytam and Shauiwan. However, the scenery in this vicinity well repaid them for their trouble, and, when the Government can see its way to transform this narrow pathway into a decent roadway it will be a great boon to motorists. The trip, Mr. Forbes added, could not have been accomplished by a large car; the sharp bends could not have been rounded, and the weak bamboo bridges would have collapsed. Many motor-cyclists have circled the island by this route, but Mr. Forbes realises that the trip made by the grey "Tiny" and its three occupants on Sunday is quite a novel one.

KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION

COMPLETION OF THE BUILDING.

The following report by M. H. P. Winslow, relative to the completion of the Kowloon railway station, will be laid on the table at to-day's meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council.

"The building was completed and opened for public traffic on the morning of the 28th March, 1916. The offices on the first floor were not occupied until April 18th owing to causes apart from the question of completion. Kang On's contract, which was for work to the amount of \$173,847, to be completed in two years from 1st March, 1914, actually amounted to a total of \$172,385.63 which included extras for work not shown, or not scheduled by the Architect, or alterations to details for which no prices were provided in the schedule, to the amount of \$12,851.89.

"The platforms and the foundations for the building which were done departmentally, cost \$53,681.54 against an original sanction of \$33,960.88. The original sanctioned amount for the building, apart from foundations, was \$250,000, of which the work specified by the architect was estimated at \$202,103.24 including the clock and bell. The total expenditure up to the end of this year (exclusive of foundations) is \$249,142.04, which amount, after including Kang On's contract, provided for such items as all the steelwork in the building, iron railings, collapsible gates, iron lantern lights, sanitary fittings, pipes and sewers, brass door and window furniture, electric wiring, lighting, and lights, telephone installation (3 systems), safes, strong-room door, lightning conductors, 22 electric clocks, public seats, drinking fountain, the water supply and piping, asphalted to flat roofs, all the glazed and flooring tiles, patent flooring to various ground floor rooms, temporary arrangements and moving into new building, Public Works Department's debts for customs, etc., etc. The accounts for the construction of the building have now been closed, and all work contemplated in connection with the vote has been completed with the exception of the clock and bell for the clock tower."

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For instance, Dr. Faiella, of Turin, says:—"I look upon Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a perfect remedy for Anaemia and Chlorosis," and Dr. Reynaud, of Villejoin, who prior to his retirement was senior physician of the Paris Hospitals, says:—"I have known a great number of young girls to have been cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY

Noon—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Household Furniture, &c., at No. 7, Middle Row, Kowloon, by Messrs. Hughes & Hough.

TO-MORROW

11.30 a.m.—China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Household Furniture, &c., at No. 17, Kennedy Road (Top Flat), by Messrs. Hughes & Hough.

Saturday, 24th Feb.—Noon—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, meeting of Shareholders at the City Hall.

Monday, 26th Feb.—Hongkong Races—1st Day.

Tuesday, 27th Feb.—Hongkong Races—2nd Day.

Wednesday, 28th Feb.—Hongkong Races—3rd Day.

Thursday, 29th March—Hongkong Races—Off Day.

Thurs. and Fri. 8th and 9th March.—Flower and Vegetable Show in the Botanical Gardens.

Saturday, 10th March.—12.30 p.m.—Hongkong and South China Steam Fisheries Co., Ltd., General Meeting at the Office of the Liquidators, New Government Building.

THE GREEK IMBROGLIO.

BETRAYAL OF SERBIA.

A MERCELESS EXPOSURE OF KING CONSTANTINE.

[BY DR. E. J. DILLON.]

When the Historic Crown Council was being held, at which the Alliance Treaty between Serbia and Greece came up for final discussion, the clause stipulating that Greece should succor Serbia in case of an aggression by a third Power was met with disfavor by King Constantine. M. Venizelos advocated it warmly in a telling speech. Mr. Stratos, who was a member of a Venizelist Cabinet before changing sides for the third and fourth time, seemed struck with the King's reluctance, and resourcefully said: "Sure, let us sign the treaty now. If by any chance later on it should no longer suit us, surely there are always circumstances in which it is permissible for a State to go back upon its word."

Venizelos looked dazed, but before he could utter a word Constantine had responded: "You are right, and if ever this eventually should arise it is I who will take on myself any obloquy involved in going back upon my promise."

Constantine was soon forced to back out of his promise, in virtue of a previous promise to the contrary which he had made to his brother-in-law and War Lord, Serbia's existence was endangered, Austria's two "punitive expeditions" having been driven back by the Serbs, the Teutons now called upon the Bulgars to drive and take part in a combined "drive." This was the case provided for by the Greco-Serbian Treaty, in virtue of which King Constantine was obliged to help his ally with all the forces of the Hellenic State; but it was also the eventuality which he had foreseen when, expressing his resolve to play his ally false and go back on his pledged word. And by way of pretext the King relied upon the condition laid down in the treaty that Serbia should supply 150,000 men for her defence. In order to deprive him of this excuse, Venizelos had asked the French Government in advance whether the two Western Allies would provide these troops. M. Delcassé and Sir Edward Grey unhesitatingly answered that they would, and they set about it without delay. The difficulties in Venizelos' way were many and embarrassing. That a farseeing statesman of his calibre should have failed to perceive that the King had thrown in his own and his country's lot with the Teutons is inconceivable, and the device to which the Premier had recourse in order to lay bare the monarch's designs, and thus if possible thwart them, leave no doubt that he judged the situation on its merits.

A CENNING TRICK.

But the King's clique was beforehand with him. Two days before the Greek mobilisation, a journalist, named Antonopoulos, was instructed to approach the Premier with a proposal that he should fall in with the views of the King and the Kaiser on the following conditions: Germany would guarantee the territorial integrity of Greece, extend its frontiers to Durazzo, allow it to annex Doiran and Geygheli, and would undertake to maintain an even balance between it and Bulgaria. Other matters would be dealt with confidentially, once M. Venizelos agreed to parley. If he refused and resigned his post, Greece would draw upon herself the dire consequences of being repudiated a Germanophile State. M. Venizelos, and only he, is of the stature to undertake a burden of the magnitude suggested. He alone could negotiate an accord with the Central Empires to which the Entente would not take exception. Would he consent? If he accepted the mission, the emissary added, his legitimate personal ambition would be gratified no less than his patriotic feelings. For in return for securing a policy of strict neutrality he would be treated as King Constantine's favourite Minister, and the Kaiser's *persona grata* in the country. He would also become entitled to lifelong Premiership.

The journalist, M. Antonopoulos, having laid these offers before M. Venizelos, received this answer: "I cannot become the executor of a policy which I condemn. The favours which Kings and Emperors can bestow have no charm for me. Neither do I cling to the portfolio of a Cabinet Minister."

Before issuing the order to mobilise M. Venizelos had another talk with the same journalist. He addressed him thus:

"Our Minister at Sofia and our Consul at Varna have informed me that Bulgaria has decreed general mobilisation, that five divisions will be sent to cover our frontiers, and that anti-Greek demonstrations have taken place at Sofia and Varna. Now I want you to have a talk at once with the representatives of the Central Empires and to tell them that within four or five hours I shall lay before the King for his signature a decree of general mobilisation. If they should thwart this scheme they may go in quest of a successor to the Premiership, for I will not assume responsibility for what will then happen. I intend to propound my views to the King. Foreseeing Bulgaria's belligerency by June and her attack against Serbia, I have entered into negotiations with the Entente. Once the Allies' armies have landed I will can upon Bulgaria to demobilise within twenty-four hours. Should she refuse and proceed to attack Serbia we, together with the French and the Serbs, will enter Bulgaria and defend her before Germany can come to her aid."

The journalist listened, and said:

"But I am told that the Treaty does not oblige Greece to succor Serbia except in case of a Balkan war."

To this the Premier replied:

"You are misinformed, then. We are bound to go to her assistance against any third State, and besides our duty to respect our pledged word, Greece's vital interest prepotently dictates this policy."

KAISER'S FALSE PROMISE.

The journalist accomplished his mission. The personage representing the Central Empire with whom he discussed the subject told him to apprise Venizelos that a partial mobilisation of 50,000 or 60,000 men would provoke no opposition, that its principal object would be to calm public feeling, nothing more, inasmuch as there was no fear whatever of an invasion of Greek territory by the Bulgars. "The Kaiser," he added, "has given formal guarantees on the subject to King Constantine."

There could be no mistaking the significance of this assurance. It gave away the concerted plan without reserve. The monarch who prided himself more on possessing the baton of a Prussian Field-Marshal than upon the Greek crown, was the Kaiser's secret confederate. His line of action was traced for him by his Imperial brother-in-law. His dealings with the Entente Powers were no more than a blind. He would certainly side and abet the Germans and their partners to the fullest extent in his power, and leave nothing undone to enlarge that power in order to thwart the schemes of the Allies. All this was evident. It connoted a grave danger. It involved serious losses in men and money.

But the Allied Governments resigned themselves to offer up these sacrifices, and, if necessary, to prolong the war and lose some of their best opportunities, in order to uphold Constantine's authority, humour his whims, and keep him in constant touch with themselves. General Sarraïl might complain of the danger to his rear, of the impossibility of moving a regiment, or undertaking any operation unknown to the enemy; our transport captains might murmur at the ease with which German submarines were supplied with everything they needed from secret bases in Greece—the Entente Powers appeared resigned to all these evils provided that Constantine were enabled to remain at the post which allowed him to go on inflicting them. To questions and expostulations of the Legislative Chambers the stereotyped answer of Ministers was that among the Entente Governments perfect harmony of views prevailed!

GREECE'S MOBILISATION.

When at last the Greek army was mobilised and the 150,000 auxiliary troops were promised by France and Britain, the question became actual whether Constantine would or would not meet his treaty engagements. The notion was still cherished by our Governments that the Greek Chamber would overcome the opposition of the King, and Venizelos still had a substantial majority of deputies on his side. This was all the more noteworthy that German propaganda had been not only vigorous, but effective. The coercive work performed by the Teutons agents, under the direction of Baron Schenck, an ex-commercial traveller for Krupp, had made greater headway in the population than the Entente Governments imagined. And their own efforts to combat it were not only always lukewarm, but often ridiculous, and occasionally they brought grist to the Teuton mill and defeated their own object.

As soon as Venizelos had obtained a majority for his proposal to observe the terms of the treaty, the monarch dismissed him and set the Constitution at naught. For the ruler the Treaty was a mere "scrap of paper," a dead thing which must not be permitted to tie the hands of an absolute Sovereign. The example of his Imperial brother-in-law was a precedent to be followed. The obloquy of this breach of faith he would take upon himself, as a patriot should. But oddly enough there was little or no opprobrium attached to the King's action, hardly any disesteem was noticed on the part of the Allies. The indignation which Bethmann-Hollweg's off-hand repudiation of a very old engagement evoked had seemingly burned itself out, and the ruler who now blithely violated a Treaty of recent date and betrayed at once his own ally and his country's protectors was still treated openly and privately as the friend of them all. Great consideration continued to be shown the Greek monarch, further promises from his Royal lips or pen were respectfully solicited and gratefully received, and the "cordial relations" existing between him and the Entente Powers, which was not permitted to question his motives or to criticise his action. Some invisible, some supernatural force—perhaps the Kaiser's "good old god"—seemed to be encircling the autocrat of the Hellenes with its protecting presence. This awe-inspiring influence which had for effect the swaying of the Allies' will in the direction marked out by their implacable enemy, is one of the most amazing aspects of this world-struggle.

NATION'S WILL DISREGARDED.

Constantine persisted in setting up his personal will against that of the whole nation as uttered in the Parliamentary vote. When the Allied troops, in response to the invitation sent by the Greek Premier, had landed on Greek soil, he despatched Colonel Pallis to summon the commander to re-embark and return whence he had come. At the same time the colonel apprised the French general that free access to Greek territory would be accorded to the troops of His Majesty the Tsar of the Bulgars! This differentiation, kept back from the Allied Press, was of course known to all the Entente Governments. But it did not detract by one iota from the friendly consideration they entertained for the King of the Hellenes, although he refused point blank to permit his defeated and famishing allies, the Serbs, to pass through Greek territory. Indulgence could no further go.

Meanwhile government in Greece against an oppositional Chamber having

become a sheer impossibility, Constantine allowed the Cretan statesman to form another Administration, but only as a brief parenthesis. After a few weeks' tenure of office Venizelos was again dismissed, and new elections were ordered under arbitrary and unconstitutional conditions. This was one of the turning points of the situation. M. Delcassé, who had consented to despatch French soldiers to Salonika only if Greece co-operated with them, had to resign. If at the juncture that ensued on the withdrawal of M. Venizelos the guaranteeing Powers had exercised their rights and discharged their duties, parliamentary government might have been revived and the ground won back which Entente sluggishness and short-sightedness had lost. But the Governments were minded that the Greek nation, which was Constantine, should have liberty of action immune from all outside pressure.

The consequence of this remissness was the formation of the Gounaris Cabinet, which boldly embarked on the personal policy of the King and endeavoured to make of Greece the thin end of the Teuto-Tartar wedge which was to split up the Allies' forces at Salonika. Soon afterwards Constantine defied the mask of friendship and stood forth as what he was, the friend of our enemies and the enemy of his country's benefactors. To the Athens correspondent of the Associated Press he expressed his profound indignation at what he termed the unheard-of high-handedness of the recent action of the Allies towards Greece. He likened the treatment of Greece by the Allies to the treatment of Belgium by the Germans, and exclaimed:—

"It is the merest cant for England and France to talk about the violation of the neutrality of Belgium and Luxembourg after what they themselves have done and are doing here. . . . They plead military necessity. It is under the constraint of military necessity that Germany invaded Belgium and occupied Luxembourg."

THE ROYAL "BULGAR-KILLER."

Hatred of the Bulgars, intense enough to seem allied to mania, had long been supposed to possess the soul of King Constantine, as though he were capable of profound and concentrated passion of any kind. He had spontaneously assumed the epithet of "Bulgar-killer," and had publicly protested against classing the Bulgars among the civilised peoples. These utterances were on record, and the Bulgarians, whom affection for Germany now forced him to claim as his friends, suggested that it would be a gracious act on his part to retract them. This was a severe test for his dignity, but he submitted to it, and in the beginning of the year 1916, in the course of an interview, Constantine said:—

"I regret that I ever pronounced the phrase that the Bulgars deserve to be struck off the list of civilised peoples. It is of France that this ought to be said."

This fierce yet contemptible thrust against the French nation would have revealed the state of the King's mind and his bias against the Entente peoples were these not known already from other sources. That he confronted those peoples as a venomous enemy whose will to work them evil was limited only by his power needed no further demonstration. But the Allies persevered, none the less, still ignoring his sly thrusts. They still courted his favour, humoured his vagaries, and extracted worthless promises from him. Their censors forbade the reproduction of this sally against France, which was held back for ten months before it could be published.

M. Venizelos instructed the Greek Minister at Sofia shortly after the mobilisation to apprise the Bulgarian Foreign Secretary that if Bulgaria attacked Serbia she would find the Greek army among her adversaries. But M. Naoum hesitated to convey the message. In truth, it staggered him, and he said so. "Before carrying out your instructions," he telegraphed back to his chief, "I feel it incumbent on me to inform you that the Bulgarian Government has already received explicit assurances that Greece will remain neutral whatever may happen." This unconstitutional promise had been volunteered by the King after the elections of June 13th, 1915, which had sent back to the Chamber a two-thirds majority of Venizelists. It was a godsend to the Bulgars, who could not have mobilised unless they had the Serbs, the Greeks, and the Romanians undertook to remain quiet during the process. And so ingenious were the enemies' statesmen and so simple-minded those of the Allies that it was the latter that undertook to prevent Serbia from giving trouble to the Bulgars while they were arming against her. The Allies' favourite and protégé, Constantine, answered for Greece, and M. Bratianu, otherwise reserved and word-trifling, gave the requisite assurances on behalf of Roumania.

A SINGULAR FORM OF UNITY.

To give the monarch his due, he has been as consistently hostile to the Allies ever since the opening of the campaign as they have been uniformly forbearing and friendly to him. Their mutual relations offered a touching example of the evangelical precept according to which one should turn the left cheek to the smiter of the right. During the first year of Sarraïl's command of the Eastern Army, Constantine employed every art and device at his disposal open and covert, to harass that army and render its position precarious or untenable. Over and over again the General made representations, formulated proposals, and taxed his ingenuity to get the Allied Governments to dislodge the danger that menaced his flank from the Greek troops. But the Allied Governments, with exemplary unanimity, declined to swerve from their friendly attitude towards the King, gave Sarraïl to understand that he would do well to let politics alone and confine himself to military matters. But the Kaiser's brother-in-law, not satisfied with having brought this rebuff on the French General, complained of his alleged anti-monarchist leanings and tactics to an influential member of the Entente, and had the satisfaction to learn that the advisability of substituting General Gouraud for the obnoxious commander was being seriously contemplated by the French Cabinet, but Sarraïl had friends in the Cabinet, and they caused a regular investigation to be made by the War Minis-

ter himself, who repaired to Salonika, and returned with the conviction that France in particular and the Entente in general have every reason to be satisfied with the commander of the Eastern Army, and to be grateful for the sterling services he has rendered them.

As soon as the secular enemies of Greece—the Bulgars—were ready to move into the country the news was communicated to King Constantine, with a request that certain commanding forts, on Sarraïl's future route, should be amply provisioned and prepared for the Bulgars. The official intimation of their imminent advance was conveyed in a despatch of the Greek Minister in Berlin, M. Theotokis, and the request was formulated in a separate message. The Premier, Skouloudis, a poor creature, in whom shiftiness and mediocrity waning with age are incarnate, transmitted an order from the Staff that Fort Roupel should be delivered up to our enemies, the route to Demir Hissar and Kavala thence up to them, and the Struma valley cased to the Allied troops at Salonika. This treacherous act was aggravated by the circumstance that a number of heavy guns, machine-guns, and explosives, and a large quantity of ammunition and provisions were deliberately stored in the principal fortress for the benefit of the invaders, who were admitted on receipt of a paper handed to the officer in command by the German chief of the troops. The King's trusty adviser, General Hadjiopoulos, commanding the Fourth Army Corps in Kavala, "in obedience to the will of his War Lord and of the law of Government," requested the supreme command of the German army to take under their protection his brave . . . troops, and give them food and lodging. In these terms one of the principal German Press organs announced the surrender of a contingent of Constantine's troops to our arch enemy.

Those misdeeds performed by a State claiming to be neutral, but in reality allied to us ever since the day on which she associated herself with France and Britain by inviting the troops of these nations, were to all intents and purposes hostile, and therefore treasonable. Aware of the impression they would make, M. Skouloudis told the Chamber that they were the result of the bewilderment caused by the unexpected invasion of Greek territory. The Cabinet, he explained, "had received tidings very suddenly that the Bulgars and Germans had summoned Fort Roupel to surrender," and, disconcerted by the news, which took them by surprise, the Minister had telegraphed instructions to yield if the forces massed against the place were really superior in number to the Greeks. At the same time a despatch had been handed to him from the Greek Minister in Berlin expressing the fear that the Bulgars-Germans would eventually march towards Roupel. That story is a fabrication. I received from an absolutely trustworthy source and published in *The Daily Telegraph* what I believe to be the real facts. They are briefly these: Exactly twenty days before the Bulgars occupied the fort, the commander of the Demir Hissar, M. Anagnostas, received a report that German regiments had appeared near the Bulgarian pass, Koola, and he thereupon telegraphed for instructions to the commander of the third corps. This officer at once communicated with Athens, referring the matter to the General Staff there. And the General Staff replied, ordering the cession of Roupel. These orders were received at Roupel fifteen days before the fort surrendered. Fifteen days. Once the commander surrendered it the Germans withdrew, and Bulgars, attired in German uniforms, pushed forward into their places. On the arrival of the forces before Roupel it was discovered that there was not one German private among them. They were all Bulgars, led by fifteen German and four Austrian officers.

This secret intelligence and open co-operation with the enemy laid Constantine at the mercy of the Entente Powers. It was expected that they would now rid themselves once for all of a poisonous traitor, whose one idea of foreign policy was to ruin the nation to which he and the country he ruled over owed everything they possessed. Rumours were afloat that he would be deported to Malta and dethroned. Public curiosity was keen as to the measures that would at last be enforced against him. The Germans, who knew how they had been in our place—would deal with him, feared that the Allies would put it out of his power to help them further, and they were anxious to retain his services until his troops could second theirs in delivering the final attack on the Salonika army which should thrust it into the sea. But "bear and forbear" was the rule adopted by Entente statesmen towards King Constantine.

After a conference between the British and the French Cabinets it was decided to settle all differences between the Entente and King Constantine by means of a Diplomatic Note. This Note called for the immediate dismissal of the Skouloudis Ministry, as if Ministers played a decisive part in a country ruled by an autocratic King. It also asked for the demobilisation of the army. Constantine bent before the storm and gave the foreign Ministers his promise. *Daily Telegraph.*

MARRIAGE BY PROXY IN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Hughes has introduced a Bill in the Federal Parliament making provision for women domiciled in Australia to marry soldiers at the front by proxy. The Bill was desired by several Australian women's organizations on the ground that the duration of the war was greatly disturbing the normal course of engagements. It was argued that prolonged absences made for uncertainty, and that immediate marriage, where desired, would make the position of the woman secure and entitle her to the usual separation allowances. Very many hundreds of Australian soldiers have married English girls while in England. A desire was expressed also by soldiers, who did not expect to be away from home so long, when they enlisted. The example of the French law was much quoted in the controversy.

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AMERICAN SYMPATHY WITH THE ALLIES.

A LECTURER'S EXPERIENCE.

[BY SIR EDWIN PEARLS.]

Sir Edwin Pearls, the veteran author and journalist, and a recognized authority on Eastern questions, has recently returned from a lecture tour in the United States. He had special opportunities of meeting representative men in all walks of life, and gives his impressions in the following article.

The election for President in America took place on November 7th. I arrived in New York on October 9th, and by good fortune found myself surrounded by friends belonging to each of the great political parties, all of whom may be classed as reasonable men. I was privileged to attend a Woman's Convention of the Democratic party. There were not more than four or five men present; the gathering was of women workers who were fighting for Mr. Wilson. Probably fifteen or sixteen women spoke, and the average of their speaking was undoubtedly high. My surprise was that in the attacks that were made upon Mr. Hughes or his party there was no charge that struck me as particularly serious. Local questions such as those arising out of the Adamson Labour Bill occupied most of the attention of the speakers. As to the question of how far Mr. Wilson had kept the country out of war, the impression I gained was that most of the speakers were afraid to tackle it. In other words, I think that some of the speakers would have been glad if they could have noted that he had made stronger protests against the devastation of Belgium and the sinking of the *Lusitania* than he had done. To a European having his first experience of the Democratic Convention the impression conveyed was that the ladies desired very much that the President should be re-elected, but respected themselves too much to fling mud at his opponent. The other suggestion was that no one would break his heart if Hughes was successful. The country had two good men, each of whom was an efficient servant. The audience preferred the tried to the untried man.

USUAL AND USUAL VOICES.

I was in Boston when the election was declared, and had been there for a fortnight. The belief in Boston was that, in similar circumstances, Mr. Hughes would have made stronger protests than Mr. Wilson had done, but there also was nothing like personal hostility to Mr. Wilson. When the news came on the 7th that Hughes was elected, news which proved false, the exhilaration was great, but was followed next day by doubts which soon became certainties as to his success. After the election I visited a great number of cities, and in one I found a professor who looked at the whole election quite philosophically. He maintained that the European War had exercised but very little influence on the election. There was no American-German party and no Irish-German party. He backed up this proposition, not by general impressions, which, as he said, amounted to nothing at all, but by careful comparison with the results obtained in November with those arrived at in previous elections. Germans and Irishmen had voted as they have been voting during the last 12 years. The local issues concern them much more than those of the politics of their native countries. He produced some startling figures to show that this was the case. For himself he had hesitated very much about voting. He had finally decided to vote for Wilson for the reason, as he expressed it, that he disliked Wilson's policy less than that attributed to Hughes. He agreed that both were excellent men, but inasmuch as the country had had Wilson in power for four years the country had some sort of guarantee of what his policy would be. The professor was far from standing alone in taking this attitude. Even Boston which voted almost in mass for Hughes had its exceptions. The "grand old man of the place," Dr. Elliot, whom I was happy to see in full vigour at the age of 85, stuck to his guns and cast his vote for Wilson. Other men almost equally well known did the same. Many explanations were given of Mr. Hughes' loss of election through the vote of California and the Mid-West. A story, uncorroborated so far as I could hear, attributed the gain of Mr. Wilson in California to bad management on the part of Mr. Hughes' committee. But the better observation was that made by many Californians and citizens of the Middle West. You would be astonished, said one who had recently traversed the Continent, "to see the utter indifference with which the people of these countries regard the European War." Yes, said a man largely interested in shipping, there is no chance whatever for American shipping reviving; the legislature has blocked the Navy Bills, and the average Western farmer asks what do we want with a navy? No army or fleet can ever get at us.

RECEPTION OF AMERICA'S NOTE.

Leaders of both political parties are practically in accord in reference to the policy carried out regarding the European war. Now that the election is over probably an enormous majority of the constituencies would agree that Wilson was a safe man; he had kept the country out of war.

In reference to the recent Wilson Note, my American friends seemed to have been alarmed at the hostility in which it was received in some quarters in England. The President of the greatest neutral country has to act with caution. Those who knew him best recognized that in regard to the ruthless invasion of Belgium and to the barbarous sinking of the *Lusitania* Mr. Wilson has never varied in his language. He honestly wished to induce the belligerents to show him their terms of peace. To me it seems that if his invitation to Germany had been answered they would have been obliged to set out the circumstances which led immediately to the war in such a fashion as to show that the war was solely of Germany's making, and this Germany would have objected to do. As one who firmly believes that no peace conditions can be

GERMAN PLOTTERS IN U.S. AND CANADA.

CONSULATE MEMBERS CONVICTED.

The most important convictions of German war conspirators in America were secured in San Francisco on Jan. 10th, when the principal members of the German Consulate-General were found guilty on charges of violating America's neutrality laws. The convicted criminals are:

Frank Bopp, Consul-General.
Eckhardt von Schack, Vice-Consul.
Lieutenant Wilhelm von Brincken, Saxon Army officer, temporarily attached to the Consulate.
Charles Crowley, a private detective employed by Bopp.
Mrs. Margaret Cornell, a spy, associated with Crowley.

A sixth person indicted, J. F. Van Koolbergen, was not brought to trial because he had fled the country, while another, L. J. Smith, secured immunity by acting as State witness.

The detailed charges against the criminal German were trying to blow up munitions plants in Canada and America and steamships and trains carrying shipments to the Allies, as well as using the soil of the United States to provide military enterprises against British territory.

The Court postponed taking the question of the sentence under consideration until later. Appeals are being planned by the conspirators.

Von Brincken declares that the Court has no right to impose a goal sentence, because that is not the way that such matters are done in Germany. He asserts that "If the worst comes to the worst, the sentences should be tempered in accordance with our rank." And he adds: "In my country officials in our position would not, under similar circumstances, be sent to prison. They might be placed in confinement at some military station, where they would enjoy the comforts to which they are accustomed, and where imprisonment would be more technical than real."—Times.

BLESSINGS OF WAR DIET.

UNCONSCIOUS HUMOUR OF AN EMINENT GERMAN PHYSIOLOGIST.

The editor of the *Local Anzeiger*, having asked Professor Heinrich Rosin to write an article for him on "Corpulence and War Food," this eminent specialist fills three columns with a very learned disquisition on the subject, not without its points of interest, and full of unintentional humour.

The professor begins by reminding his readers that never before in the history of the world has such barbarism been practised as is now practised by England in her attempt to starve an entire nation. And yet this very "hate-borne and curse-laden starvation war has resulted in bringing benefits to many a sufferer, and will result in benefiting many more."

Owing to the compulsory limits placed on diet, says Professor Rosin, quite a group of diseases has been robbed of many of its terrors, and in numerous cases complete cures have been wrought. This is especially the case with gout and corpulence.

The benefits of war diet come in mainly in the case of those patients whose lives are so weak that they fail to follow the orders of their medical advisers, men and women who are led away by their appetites or who succumb to the advice of friends. Compulsory war diet is a godsend to these weaklings, and their name is legion.

Professor Rosin has been a narrow observer of the effects of war food on the ordinary citizen. He is amazed that notwithstanding the provocation given by war food he finds comparatively few signs of diminishing physical powers among the great masses of the people. Emaciation has become pretty general, he says, especially in towns, but emaciation is seldom accompanied by weakness or the loss of physical capacity.

On all sides the professor meets persons, men and women, who have never before been successfully treated with diet rules, and who now give almost daily proof that their heavy load of fat tissues is surely disappearing. A decrease in weight of 50 pounds is not a rare occurrence—all the result of war diet. Men and women are met daily by the professor who show him with some pride the loose folds of clothes, where in former days all was tightness and pressure. And they are all in good health and all feel comfortable and jolly.

War diet is the best anti-fat cure known to Professor Rosin—he says so definitely. He calls it "an ideal cure." "War diet improves the action of the heart and the circulation of the blood, and makes healthy citizens out of men and women who have hitherto been a burden to themselves and others."

But in view of all this it is not rather unkind of Dr. Rosin to accuse England of a "hate-borne and curse-laden starvation war?"

discussed unless the military power of Germany is broken, and that the chief aim of the diplomatists should be to make a peace that would be durable. I have the fullest confidence that Mr. Wilson will lend his aid in his own cautious and careful way to bring about such a result.

I had many and unique opportunities of learning American sentiment. I may mention that I lectured to three large audiences where possibly a majority of those present were Germans or of German descent, and I was surprised at the unanimity of the sentiment in favour of the Allies. I fully expected at some of the gatherings an outburst of pro-German feeling. I heard nothing of the kind. When I saw a large audience, I incidentally, and almost accidentally, let slip the phrases that the Allies would win the audience seized it with an enthusiasm that caught me quite unprepared. In railway carriages, in private houses, and in large audiences the hearers were apparently unanimous in their wishes for our success. America is with us, and the person who should attempt to make mischief between the two countries is an enemy of both.—Daily Mail.

A CONFERENCE OF THE EMPIRE.

In the irrelevant and mischievous chatter about peace which has disturbed this season of Christmas the world has lost sight of one great event which, unlike the hypocritical professions of Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg and the machinations of interested "pacifists," will profoundly influence the history of the world.

On Christmas Day, well chosen for the single genuine movement towards a lasting peace, the Prime Ministers of the self-governing Dominions were invited to attend a series of meetings of the War Cabinet, "in order to consider urgent questions affecting the prosecution of the war, the possible conditions on which in agreement with our Allies, we could assent to its termination, and the problems which will then immediately arise."

The terms of the invitation are plain and prosaic, yet beneath their prose and their plainness there shines the light of an imperial imagination. Hitherto our eyes have been blinded with prejudice and error. We have not seen the tokens of hope and freedom which lay in our path-way. Our blinkered politicians have told us that we must not tighten the bonds which unite us with our Dominions overseas. They have talked pompously about banded and bolted and barred doors of stout British oak, and in their vain hunt for votes have forgotten the strength which comes to the Empire from unity of purpose and from a shared responsibility.

But the war, which has changed so much, has changed also the blind old policy of doing nothing. The politicians who interposed between us and union have retired, blinkered still, into obscurity. The door of stout British oak has been prudently opened to its friends, who never again will find it banded and bolted at their approach. The Dominions, which have fought by our side in the great battle of liberty waged against the German oppressor, have earned the right of helping to make peace as they have helped to make war. From the very beginning our battle has been theirs. We have mingled our blood with theirs on the stricken fields of France and the Dardanelles. As they have fought and bled, so in justice and honour will they send their representatives to the Council Chamber.

BUT OF COMPLACENCY.

There are many problems indeed which would remain insoluble without their aid. For not merely have they sent their soldiers to fight to Europe; they have taken by their own process the Colonies which the Germans have been permitted to plant in their neighbourhood. And when the peace comes, in whose dictation they will bear a part, the duty will still remain to them of bringing good government and prosperity to the Dominions of their own. Dominions which they have wrested from the heavy hand of Teutonia and misgovernment. The future of the Pacific, for instance, lies largely in the hands of Australasia, and we can look forward only with the liveliest interest to the tact and courage with which she will tackle a problem which once was ours alone.

Thus it is that war puts the burden always upon the white man's back. The Dominions have played a noble part in the war, and will shoulder henceforth a noble share of duty and responsibility. Upon the spirit in which they shoulder it will depend the future of our Empire. They will be asked, in New Guinea and elsewhere, to perform the self-same tasks which we once performed all the world over. Graven to manhood, they are called upon at last to found and to administer Colonies of their own. And so profound a faith we have in their patience and in their sense of a sound tradition that we gladly entrust to their hands the less Dominions, our grandchildren, over whose youth and growing manhood it will be their business to watch.

And as the closer union, knit between us and the Dominions, will weight them with a salutary authority, which they did not know of old, so it will make us cast off the wrinkled skin of corruption and wax young again. For the last ten years we have lain in a sad rut of folly and complacency. We have believed that so long as we cherished the House of Commons we were assured of happiness. We had carefully tended the illusion, common to all those who droop to decay, that the means were greater than the end. But at last we have shaken off our sloth, and have entered once more "the glorious ways of truth and prosperous virtue, destined to become great and honourable in these later ages."

In this vast empire the Dominions will come to our aid. They will furnish us with something of the young blood which we once gave freely to them. Truly, the bread which we cast upon the waters has come back to us. With a forthright and in the spirit of adventure we sent our early Colonists across the sea. We taught them before they went—sometimes they went because they had learned the lessons of freedom and self-government. And now, in our age—an age which is not debased, but is like Old Adam's, "frosty but kindly"—they come back to us, bringing with them the strength and insouciance of youth, and willing also to bear the work of wisdom which a thousand years of unbroken history have taught us.

STRENGTH IN UNION.

Thus at last are the eloquent words of Milton, which have often been and can never be too often quoted, amply justified. The noble and puissant nation has aroused herself. "The strong man after sleep, and shaken her invincible locks." As an eagle she mews "her mighty youth and nimbles her undazzled eyes at the full midday beam." While the whole noise of timorous and flocking birds, with those also that love the twilight, flutter about, amazed at what she means and in their envious gabble would prognosticate a year of sects and schisms.

And the calling of the Dominions to our councils is not only good in itself—it bears testimony that the power of action is once more all in our midst. For the last two years we have been fobbed off

(Continued at foot of next column.)

A MILLION MEN LOST IN 1916.

THE GERMAN CASUALTIES IN FRANCE.

The totals of prisoners taken by the Allied Armies on the various fronts in Europe during 1916 make up a mass of close upon 800,000. The French have captured 78,800 Germans, the British have captured 40,000 Germans. The Italians have taken 62,950 Austrians. On the Eastern Front the Russians have captured some 400,000 prisoners, mostly Austrians. The Macedonian Army has taken prisoners 11,173 Bulgarians, Turks, and Germans. This gives us the formidable total of 889,423, a figure which leaves out of account the considerable number of prisoners made by the Roumanians in their irruption into Transylvania and the prisoners captured by the British in Egypt and German East Africa.

Of the 118,000 Germans captured in France in 1916, the French took 28,600 at Verdun and 51,800 on the Somme. The Franco-British Armies have taken hundreds of guns of various calibres from the enemy during the year. A recent official statement in England claimed 150 heavy guns, 200 field guns, and 1,500 machine-guns up to November. But this total will have to be considerably increased, for the French captured 116 guns of all calibres at Verdun on December 15th and 16th.

It is safe to put the enemy's total casualties in France during the year at not less than a million. Reasonable computations based on the enemy's partial admissions make it considerably more. The loss in prisoners alone is equivalent to the bayonet strength of ten full divisions. In their attack on Verdun the Germans up to July 1st had brought into engagement 423 divisions. On the Somme up to November 1st, in all 90 German divisions had participated in the fighting.

The great revelation of the year as far as the French army was concerned has been that it has taught the enemy, once for all, that any plan of campaign based on the idea that the French army can be either crushed or exhausted is chimerical. A year after the beginning of the battle of Verdun that army is more powerful, better equipped, more confident than ever. And on this front the ascendancy has passed definitively to the armies of France and Great Britain.

THE GERMAN VIEW.

CHANCELLOR AND HIS FIVE MORTGAGES.

The Socialist *Forwards* draws attention to the revival of the Pan-German campaign against the Chancellor as the result of the failure of the German peace offer. The *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten*, the organ of the "armour plate" patriots, is quoted as having drawn up a complete register of the Chancellor's sins of commission and omission. The chief count in the indictment is that "at the beginning of the war, when the Germans marched into Belgium, he spoke the words about necessity, knowing no laws, and about the wrong committed against international law." Further crime of Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg is that he, "in spite of the lively protests of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz, declared war on Russia and France, instead of shifting the responsibility for declaring war on to their shoulders." After making other charges, the writer continues:—

"The diplomacy of our Chancellor is so burdened with the weight of the above enumerated five mortgages that he can never obtain the liberty of action and the personal freedom from him required for the conclusion of a peace advantageous to Germany."

PARLIAMENT THE ENEMY.

The *Deutsche Tageszeitung* issues a loud warning against the "creeping paralysis" of parliamentarism which is invading Germany from every side. In its opinion the disease is afflicting every nation; but Germany, it feels sure, such a fate is infected will inevitably perish by it.

"Just at this moment one hears English voices which suggest that what cannot be achieved by arms, viz. the destruction of German power, might be attained by the democratisation of German institutions. These efforts have never ceased since the sixties of last century, when Bismarck came into conflict with the Parliament, and to-day the pro-British party is still busy with the undermining work. Here is the vulnerable spot of the German Siegfried. He who would deliver the German people into the hands of democracy and parliamentarism will be branded by history on his forehead with the words—Destructive Germanism."

by promises. When we have ardently desired this or that policy we have been told that it was "under consideration." Indeed it was under consideration, and likely to be kept there. All the projects upon which the safety of the Empire depended were put into a sort of political cold-storage, where they decayed daily to a kind of unused rottenness. And now, happily, we begin another year in another atmosphere. We are led by men who are determined to know and to do, and will never be content to talk and to wait. In all the many spheres of activity we note the same surprising change.

The many things which were "under consideration" are to-day accomplished facts. The Dominions are summoned to a conference; a Food Minister, aided by an expert in agriculture, stands between us and discomfort; a business man at the Treasury will guard the finances of the Empire as rigidly as though he were at the head of a commercial undertaking. All these reforms are admirable and admirably concerned. But above all, we enter the New Year with confidence, because the union begun on the battlefield will be strengthened in the War Cabinet. And when all the gossip which has been encouraged by President Wilson's Note is forgotten, we shall remember with pride that on Christmas Day, 1916, the Dominions were invited to confer with the main country upon all the intimate and difficult problems of war and peace—An Englishman in the *Daily Mail*.

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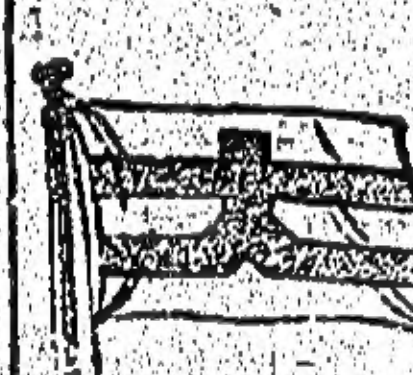
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